

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCI-06 NSF-04 CU-04 COA-02 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /048 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/EP/E:DKGUTHRIE

6/29/73:28396

APPROVED BY ARA/EP:SMPINGLE

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R 292224Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: TGEN, EC

SUBJ: CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

1. SUMMARY. DR. ROY E. CAMERON, CAL TECH FACULTY MEMBER AND PRESIDENT OF CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE WITH HEADQUARTERS IN DANA POINT, CALIFORNIA, HAS SOUGHT DEPT'S ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO COMPLETING FINAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH ECUADOREAN NAVY FOR STUDENT RESEARCH CRUISES IN GALAPAGOS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN EARLY JULY. END SUMMARY.

2. DARWIN INSTITUTE IS NEWLY ESTABLISHED PRIVATE ORGANIZATION WHICH PLANS CONDUCT SUMMER CRUISES FOR US COLLEGE STUDENTS INTERESTED IN STUDYING NATURAL HISTORY OF GALAPAGOS. FIRST CRUISE GROUP (ABOUT 30 STUDENTS PLUS INSTITUTE STAFF) WILL BE ARRIVING GUAYAQUIL JULY 3.

3. INSTITUTE WILL BE WORKING IN COOPERATION WITH UNIVERISTY OF GUAYAQUIL AND OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE OF ECUADOREAN NAVY. CRUISES WILL BE ABOARD FORMER UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESEARCH SHIP MAHI, WHICH WILL BE MANNED ENTIRELY BY ECUADOREAN

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NAVY. UNDER TERMS OF WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH LT. CDR. RAUL

CANIZARES, DIRECTOR OF OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, MAHI WILL ALSO CARRY SIX ECUADOREAN NAVY PERSONNEL TO MAKE OCEANOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS.

4. DR. CAMERON HAS RECENTLY BEEN ADVISED BY MR. ALBERTO ALERCON, PRESIDENT OF PUBLICISTAS SUDAMERICANOS OF QUITO AND A MEMBER OF THE DARWIN INSTITUTE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THAT HE SHOULD COME TO QUITO NEXT WEEK FOR MEETING WITH COMMANDANT OF ECUADOREAN NAVY IN ORDER TO OBTAIN "FINAL PERMISSION" FOR INSTITUTE TO INITIATE ITS GALAPAGOS PROGRAM. HAVING BEEN UNDER IMPRESSION THAT INSTITUTE ALREADY HAD NECESSARY AUTHORITY TO COMMENCE AND WITH DATE OF FIRST CRUISE IMMINENT, CAMERON EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT NAVY WILL COME FORTH WITH ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING USE OF MAHI BY ECUADOREAN NAVY, WHICH INSTITUTE NOT BE IN POSITION TO MEET. HE HAS ASKED DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE ON HOW TO PROCEED.

5. WE HAVE STRESSED TO CAMERON THAT IT IS UP TO INSTITUTE AND ECUADOREAN NAVY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON TERMS FOR INSTITUTE'S OPERATIONS IN ECUADOR. HOWEVER, WE SUGGESTED THAT HE GET IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN QUITO AND KEEP THEM APPRISED OF HIS ACTIVITIES SO THAT THEY COULD PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE WHICH MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE. WE RECOMMENDED THAT POINT OF CONTACT AT EMBASSY BE ACTING POLITICAL CHIEF DWIGHT MASON. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TGEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE128629
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DKGUTHRIE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973061/aaaaaajh.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE
TAGS: EC
To: QUITO GUAYAQUIL
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005